AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Pages 12-13, paragraph bridging pages:

In the above embodiment, when the printing image data K is converted into the proof image data K', the area percentage saving K gradation conversion table 22 is used which is capable of bringing the halftone dot area percentages of the printed material and the proof into agreement with each other. However, a density saving K gradation conversion table capable of bringing the densities of a printed material and a proof into agreement with each other may be used. Specifically, if image data are considered in terms of halftone ~~doe~~ dot area percentages, then the density of an image having a halftone dot area percentage of 100 % on a printed material and the density of an image having a halftone dot area percentage of 100 % on a proof may considerably be different from each other. In this case, if the area percentage saving K gradation conversion table 22 shown in FIG. 3 is used, then the image is reproduced with different densities in its entirety. A density saving K gradation conversion table having characteristics shown in FIG. 5 may be established, and printing image data K may be converted into proof image data K' by the density saving K gradation conversion table shown in FIG. 5 to produce a proof which has the same density of black as the density of black on a printed material.